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Wednesday, March 1, 2017 metro.us | t: MetroBOS | f: MetroBoston

## YAS QUEEN!

'Broad City' star Ilana Glazer gets hitched. 8



Ski season is still on. 11

Slumping Celtics face LeBron, Cavs. 13

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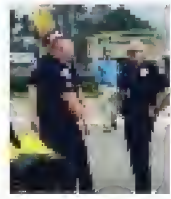
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## SUV INJURES 12 STUDENTS IN ALABAMA PARADE

**I**n an SUV driven by an elderly man plowed into a Mardi Gras parade crowd in Gulf Shores, Alabama, on Tuesday, injuring a dozen members of a high school marching band and prompting the event to be canceled, city and police officials said. Of the 12 students hurt, four were critically injured, Gulf Shores spokesman Grant Brown said at a news conference. The driver, who was not identified,



did not suffer any injuries and had not been charged. "This was not involving drugs or alcohol, nor is there any indication that this was an intentional act," Gulf Shores Police Chief Edward Delmore told reporters. "Every indication is that this was just a tragic accident by an elderly man driving his vehicle." **REUTERS**

## MARCH RATE HIKE UP FOR 'SERIOUS CONSIDERATION'

**2** With the U.S. economy at full employment and inflation moving back up toward the central bank's goal of 2 percent, the Federal Reserve could raise borrowing costs again as soon as next month, San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank President John Williams signaled on Tuesday. "In my view, a rate increase is very much on the table for serious consideration at our

March meeting," Williams said in remarks prepared for delivery to the Santa Cruz Chamber of Commerce. "We need to gradually ease our foot off the gas in order to avoid a 'too hot' economy that in the end isn't sustainable." The Fed lifted interest rates last December for only the second time since the financial crisis, and last month left them unchanged to give the labor market more room to improve. **REUTERS**

## BUSH: HOPEFUL DESPITE 'PRETTY UGLY' CLIMATE

**3** Former President George W. Bush has described the political climate in Washington as "pretty ugly" under Donald Trump's presidency but expressed optimism the United States would pull through despite the divisive political discourse. "I don't like the racism and I don't like the name-calling and I don't like the people feeling alienated," Bush, 70, said in an interview with



People magazine that will hit newsstands on Friday. "Nobody likes that." Promoting his first art book "Portraits of Courage: A Commander in Chief's Tribute to America's Warriors," Bush said, however, that he felt no anxiety about the direction the country was headed in. **REUTERS**

## FATAL PLANE CRASH

**5** The tail of an airplane crashed into the roof of a residential building on Riverview Boulevard in Methuen on Tuesday. The pilot of the plane was killed as a result of the crash.

JESSICA RONALDI/THE BOSTON GLOBE VIA GETTY IMAGES



**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**

## XBOX UNVEILS \$9.99 MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTION

**4** Microsoft Corp.'s Xbox division said on Tuesday it would launch a \$9.99-per-month subscription service that will allow gamers to play more than 100 Xbox One and "backward compatible" Xbox 360 video games. The service, "Xbox Game Pass," will allow subscribers to download games directly to a console and play them online as well as offline, Phil Spencer, head of Xbox, said in a blog post. The

subscription will only be available on Microsoft's Xbox One video game console and devices running its Windows 10 operating system. The service, which will launch later this spring, will include games such as "LEGO Batman," Microsoft's "Halo 5: Guardians" and Take-Two Interactive Software Inc.'s "NBA 2K16." "Xbox Game Pass" subscribers will also be able to buy games in the catalog at a discount. **REUTERS**

## WELCOME TO METRO.US!

ERIN TIERNAN, WEB REPORTER

President Donald Trump was back at the bully pulpit last night for his biggest speech yet — his address to the joint sessions of Congress. For reactions and the play by play, head to [metro.us/politics](http://metro.us/politics).



## PLAY TO WIN

# \$100!

Every Monday, we pick a random winner from the participants who answered correctly one of the quizzes from the previous week.

Congrats to last week's winner, Dinorah Balthazar from New York City.

[metro.us/quiz](http://metro.us/quiz)



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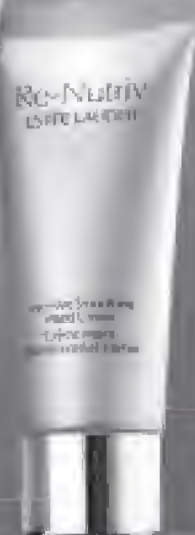
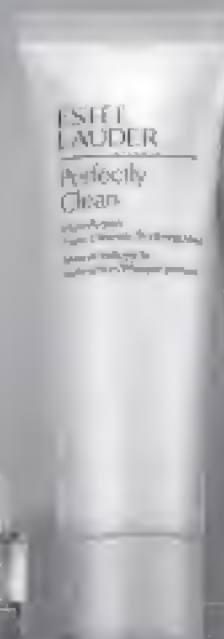


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# Reports paint contrasting pictures of life in Massachusetts

First among "Best States."

What makes a state the best? Is it great education, or access to and affordability of health care? Or do safety and infrastructure top the list?

Turns out, it's all of the above, and more.

Massachusetts apparently has what it takes to be a superlative state, according to the U.S. News and World Report. The Bay State ranked first in the publication's "Best States" list.

The ranking is based on seven key metrics. Health care, education, crime and corrections, infrastructure, opportunity, economy and government all factor in to a state's score.

Massachusetts was ranked first in the nation in the education category. Students in the state took the top spot for high national math scores; and access for

children to education is among the highest in the nation.

The state was ranked second in the health care category with top rankings in subcategories of child wellness visits and health insurance enrollment.

The state ranked first in the nation in internet access.

Contributing to the state's top ranking were such factors as its employment rates, business environment, entrepreneurship and patent creation. And as a hub of technology and education, the state was ranked first in the nation in internet access.

New Hampshire, Minnesota, North Dakota and Washington round out the top five. Louisiana was ranked the worst state, preceded by Mississippi, Arkansas, Alabama and

New Mexico.

Best known for its ranking of universities and colleges, U.S. News

Massachusetts may have just been named the "Best State" in the U.S. in one survey, but its biggest city



CREATIVE COMMONS

and World Report's Best State ranking is a new effort by the website. Government and private sources were used to determine the roster, which the publication says it created to renew focus on the states. ALEXIS SACHDEV

still struggles with disparities in education, housing, income, health and jobs, according to a new report.

The Boston metro area is becoming more diverse but also more economically separated, according to the "State of Equity in

Inequities persist in Boston.

Metro Boston," a report released Tuesday by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, a regional planning agency.

The council predicts that by 2040, people of color will account for at least 40 percent of the region. In 2010, people of color were 25 percent of the population.

Though this population is increasing, neighborhoods are still racially and economically segregated, according to the report.

The average white resident lives in a neighborhood where 4 percent of their neighbors are black, and 6 percent are Latino. White households are also located in more affluent neighborhoods than black, Latino and Asian households with the same annual incomes, the report found.

"People [in lower-income neighborhoods]

don't have the same resources, and meanwhile, folks living in more affluent communities feel no connection to people not like them," said Tim Reardon, director of its data services and co-author of "State of Equity."

"They can go through their lives without knowing someone receiving public aid — and that creates social and emotional dissonance."

Households in the top 5 percent of income earn 18 times more than what households in the lowest 5 percent make. That works out to an average income of \$272,500 compared to \$14,900. That disparity has been growing.

Other significant findings include a higher increase in youth asthma, primarily among black and Latino children.

KRISTIN TOLUSSANT



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55-59	111.00	92.25	45.00	37.50	23.00	19.25	14.20	11.95
60-64	136.00	103.50	55.00	42.00	28.00	21.50	17.20	13.30
65-69	163.50	126.00	66.00	51.00	33.50	26.00	20.50	16.00
70-74	221.00	171.00	89.00	69.00	45.00	35.00	27.40	21.40
75-79	301.00	243.50	121.00	98.00	61.00	49.50	37.00	30.10
80-85	413.50	347.25	166.00	139.50	83.50	70.25	50.50	42.55

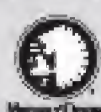
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## MBTA clocks most derailments of transit systems nationwide

Officials call system "very safe."



ERIN TIERNAN  
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The MBTA says its system is safe.

That assurance was made to passengers after the release of national transportation data that showed the MBTA has more derailments than any other transit system in the country.

In 2016, there were eight derailments by MBTA vehicles, including six on the Green Line — down from seven in the prior year — and two involving subway maintenance vehicles after hours, according to the National Transit Database numbers. The data do not include incidents on the commuter rail.

The MBTA also reported 20 collisions, two fires and four security



The Green Line is the busiest light rail in the nation. WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

concerns in 2016.

No one was injured in any of the incidents.

By comparison, transit systems in San Francisco and New Orleans each had six derailments last year. Washington and Cleveland regional transit clocked in at five derailments.

MBTA spokesman Joe Pesaturo called Boston's subways "very safe" in

a statement to Metro on Monday.

Track conditions were the main cause of derailments last year, Pesaturo said, but a comprehensive corrective action plan implemented last year was already improving safety.

"The T has many men and women work very hard every day to inspect and maintain tracks," he

said. "Under this comprehensive program, the MBTA's rail maintenance division has moved from reactive to proactive, closely monitoring track conditions and alignments."

Considering the Green Line is the busiest light rail in the country, Pesaturo said, the number of derailments is low.

Pesaturo pointed out the federal data is based on self-reported numbers by each transit system, which could mean discrepancies.

"The MBTA numbers include two incidents in which maintenance vehicles [operating during overnight hours] derailed. It's not clear if all U.S. transit systems reported maintenance vehicle derailments to the National Transportation Database, which the MBTA did," Pesaturo said.

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## Wait, did Ilana Glazer have a supersecret wedding?

Ilana Glazer — queen of "Broad City," and therefore, our hearts — has married her longtime boyfriend, David Rooklin, in a supersecret ceremony. And the proof is just hanging out on Instagram, apparently. A source tells us the couple, who are very private, wed at City Hall early this week.



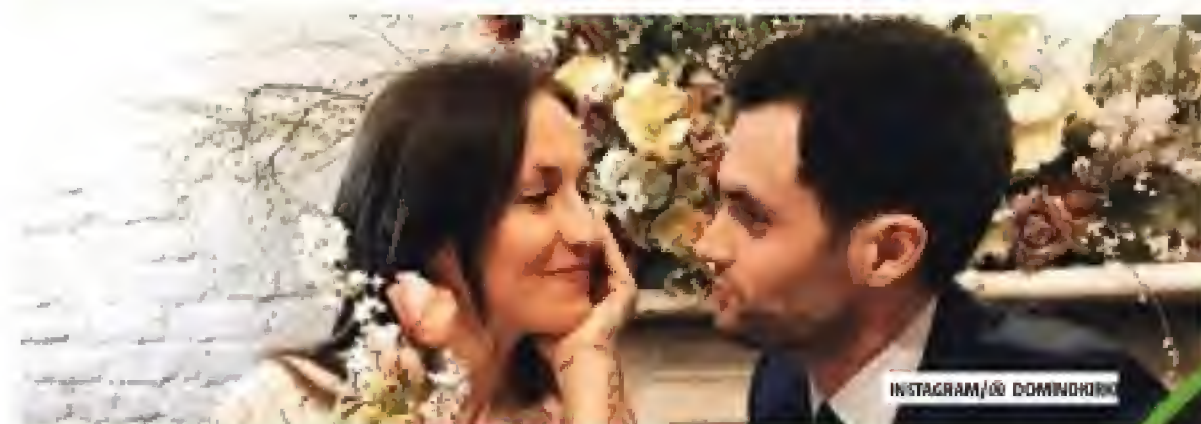
City Hall — really in with the young people these days, eh?

Rooklin is a scientist and, according to The New Yorker, "a trim, clean-cut white man in his 30s." Chill. I'm so happy for these two. Both "Broad City" and Ilana are my everything. A heaping of congratulations to the happy couple!

## This is why Emma Watson won't take a selfie with you

Even though she's a celebrity, Emma Watson just wants a simple kind of life. In an interview with Vanity Fair, the 26-year-old shared why, exactly, privacy is so important to her: It comes down to being able to have a life or not. "If someone takes a photograph of me and posts it ... they can see what I'm wearing and who I'm with. I have to carefully pick and choose my moment to interact." OK, fine. So you don't want us plebians tracking your every move. But why won't you tell us about your boyfriend, huh?

"I want to be consistent," she says, according to Elle. "I can't talk about my boyfriend in an interview and then expect people not to take paparazzi pictures of me walking around outside my home. You can't have it both ways." Ugh, what are you trying to do, Watson? Outfox the media? Just because you studied at Brown for a while?! Rude. But also very smart.



INSTAGRAM/@DOMINOKIRKE

## Oh, great, Penn Badgley is a married man

Ugh, love is in the air or whatever. "Gossip Girl" himself, Penn Badgley, had a surprise, low-key wedding Monday. His blushing bride? Domino Kirke, sister of Gemma, star of "Girls," and Lola, star of "Mozart in the Jungle." The two were married in a Brooklyn courthouse, in what I assume was a very chill ceremony.

Each of the sisters Kirke congratulated the couple in a way to casually make it all about them. Gemma took to Twitter to lovingly say "Congratulations ya

sh\*thead! @Penn-Badgley and @DominoKirke it's all downhill from here. In a good way!" How charming!

Lola posted a photo on Instagram, noting that a courthouse wedding is the perfect opportunity to steal the show away from the married couple. "When someone gets married in a courthouse, it's really an open invitation to everyone but the beautiful bride to explore all fashion has to offer," she wrote. What an inspiration!

For what it's worth,

Badgley, 30, has proved time and time again that he has pretty good taste, having dated both Blake Lively and, my personal fave, Zoe Kravitz. Congrats, or whatever!

## the word

RACHAEL CLEMMONS  
rachael.clemmons@metro.us

## Is Paris big enough for Selena, Bella & The Weeknd?

Selena Gomez, The Weeknd and Bella Hadid are all in Paris right now, and there is a lot of speculation about what exactly might go down. My guess? Absolutely nothing. Paris is a big city. And, technically, these people are adults. Technically.

According to TMZ, Selena and The Weeknd — aka Abel Tesfaye — were spotted hanging out at their hotel, which

is just a hop, skip and casual jog away from the one where Bella is staying. The Weeknd is there for a gig, Bella is there for Paris Fashion Week and I guess Selena is just hanging out with her boyfriend, as girlfriends do. For what it's worth, I believe, truly in my heart, that you are allowed to be in the same city at the same time as your ex. Also, who has time for drama when you're eating the best pastries in the world?

## Saint West is incredibly hard to impress

Kim Kardashian recently took to Twitter to share a couple photos of her 14-month-old son, Saint West. And if he wasn't already, he's now in the running to being America's favorite baby. I mean, look at those cheeks! How could one even try to resist cheeks like those?! The 36-year-old reality star shared the photos from

a recent family trip to Costa Rica. My favorite thing about this is how deeply unimpressed Saint is. In those beautiful dark brown eyes, I see repressed resignation and an intense feeling of, "I'm over this, Mom. Just give me some pureed peaches, or whatever." Kudos to Saint West for being the realest dude in his family.



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<sup>2</sup> http://www.breitbart.com/2015/07/07/washington-state-pot-law-cannabis-for-rest-of-life-allowed/2017/

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# Sam Worthington finds religion (sort of)

The "Avatar" isn't much of a believer, but he got a lot out of being in "The Shack."



MATT PRIGGE  
@mattprigge  
matt.prigge@metro.us

Onscreen, Sam Worthington tends to play quiet, taciturn: the driven heroes of "Avatar," "Clash of the Titan" and "Terminator: Salvation." But get him talking, and you'll learn a lot. Did you know the actor can be a bit of a nerd? He loves disappearing down Google rabbit holes, or reading books about the history of places where he's filming. He was even very open to making "The Shack," which is technically Hollywood's latest Christian movie, but to him was an honest drama about a man dealing with grief.

Based on the best-seller, the film stars Worthington as a man who tumbles into depres-



Octavia Spencer helps Sam Worthington grapple with unimaginable tragedy in "The Shack," based on the bestseller and in theaters Friday. JAKE GILES-NEYTER

sion after his daughter is murdered. He finds himself mysteriously lured to a remote shack, where he meets three enigmatic people, led by Octavia Spencer, who may be the Holy Trinity.

doesn't happen automatically. It's very hard to forgive people who have done you wrong, but here's some steps you can take.

**It's a topic most of us don't like to think about.** We're all going to have some kind of tragedy in our life. Someone we love will die. How do we get past that? There's always going to be someone to help you with that, whether it's family or loved ones or God. We all think we're communicating on our iPhones, but in reality it distances us more. Sometimes we do feel all alone on this planet, and it's nice to have a movie that argues otherwise.

**You're not a very religious person, but this is technically a religious movie.**

Some people think of it as a Christian movie. I never looked at it that way. I don't look at all action movies as action movies, or all thrillers as thrillers. That's something that helps split up Blockbuster video stores. I just found it to be an interesting story about a man who has to learn to forgive himself, and forgive God, and forgive the people who have done him wrong. That's how I look at most movies: Does it hit me personally?

**I think the best religious movies are really about other things, too.** "The Shack" is about forgiveness and the difficulty of dealing with trauma. That's how I look at the Bible. The Bible is like a guideline for how to live a better life. The idea of "The Shack" is learning to forgive others and that the healing process is going to take time. It

**I do think social media can be great for finding people, but I do think you**

## Token "Avatar" talk

The "Avatar" sequels are finally going to start shooting this summer. I don't want spoilers, but I will say I think we just have to trust James Cameron. People always doubt his next movies, then they always wind up being the biggest things ever. [Laughs] I love "Titanic" because Jim made a movie where everyone already knew the ending. The ship was going to sink; he wasn't going to change that. He still made a movie that connected with everyone.

He's an interesting filmmaker because he's so powerful that he can make whatever he wants. You don't get the sense that he's just focus grouping, giving people what they think they want. It always feels genuine. He makes movies that mean something to him but he also wants to entertain. He's always searching for some connective tissue. He's inspiring to be around.

**should meet your online friends in real life at some point.** I don't have any social media. But I'm trying to be more social in my real life. My son's at the age when he's starting to discover what friendship is. To be honest, I'm still trying to figure that out, too.



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# Spring fever



Maybe don't ski in a tank top. ISTOCK

## The Downhill Report



**ERIC WILBUR**  
@GlobeEricWilbur

My wife questioned my appearance last Friday afternoon when I threw on a pair of khaki shorts. After all, the temperature had reached an abnormal 70 degrees in the Boston area. 'Tis the season ... or something like that.

But even that shift in the weather did not sway her from changing out of her woolen sweater with matching scarf rolled around her collar. "It's still February," she reasoned with me.

Like I needed that reminder.

Yet, in like a lamb comes March with the skier's apprehension that the lions have been put away for the bulk of the month. It's, once again, forecasted to be in the 60s this week, with the sudden prognosis that spring skiing, much like it did last year, has arrived terribly too early. Nah.

This month can typically be one of the snowiest of the year in the mountains of New England, helping to quell the fears that record snowfall in places like Sunday River and Sugarloaf in February — when each resort received more than 5 feet — might disappear faster than anyone intended

it might. In Vermont, Pico Mountain went and made snow Monday, a seeming commitment to calming the nerves of those who slipped into their sandals at some point last week. Sunday River's snowmaking team is planning on hitting the mountains on Thursday and Friday night.

Not that there hasn't been a cost. The recent warmth cost 3 feet of snow at the summit of Mount Mansfield. That may sound dire until one realizes that the result is only 4 inches off from the average snow stake at the top of Stowe at this time of the year.

Yes, it has indeed been a schizophrenic winter in New England.

But with March comes the necessary, annual reminder for some that the skiing and riding season does not end with the conclusion of February school vacation. Heck, Killington Mountain Resort, aiming to maintain its reputation for being the "King of Spring" is already planning on having late-season skiing scheduled for Memorial Day weekend.

The Vermont resort is also offering a new deal beginning this month with its Nor'Beaster spring season pass, which is good for the remainder of the season — however long that may last — beginning March 17. You can purchase the pass for \$189 before St. Patrick's Day,

or for \$209 on or after the start date. That's, of course, in addition to a wealth of events planned through April, including the annual pond-skimming, Bear Mountain mogul challenge and the May Day slalom. [killington.com](http://killington.com)

Wachusett Mountain has also resumed snowmaking practices this week, setting up its Rest of Season Pass for \$168. Even better, you can upgrade your lift ticket and only pay the difference. [wachusett.com](http://wachusett.com)

Pat's Peak, in Henniker, New Hampshire, is planning a sliding scale of midweek prices this month, starting with \$35 lift tickets next week, decreasing \$5 each week until \$25 tickets will be available March 20-22. A portion of the proceeds will go to local charities. [patspeak.com](http://patspeak.com)

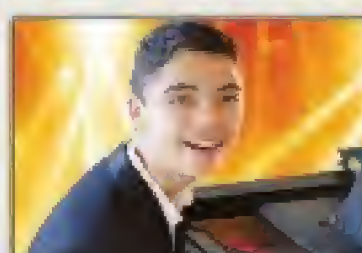
Spring skiing also brings out all sorts of other rock-bottom prices at the ticket window, including Mad River Glen's St. Patrick's Day special, when anybody wearing green can ski for only \$17. Donate a minimum of five nonperishable food items and ski for \$39 at Okemo Mountain Resort. At Waterville Valley, April 1 will come a little early, with the resort offering lift tickets on March 31 for the grand total of \$1.

No fooling, unlike the weather. But we can probably put the shorts away for now.

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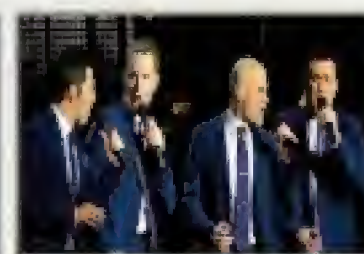
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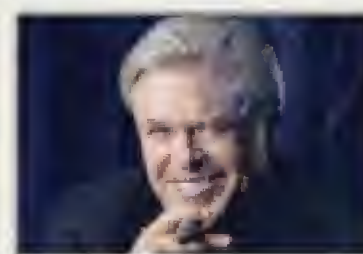
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home

# Here's what \$19 million buys you in Boston

Luxury meets classic elegance in this Commonwealth Avenue condo. **ZILLOW**

Gawk at the lifestyles of the rich.

ERIN TIERNAN  
@MetroBOS  
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Living in the city can often mean sacrificing expansive rooms and parking spaces for the convenience of living near the restaurants and shops in Boston's bustling

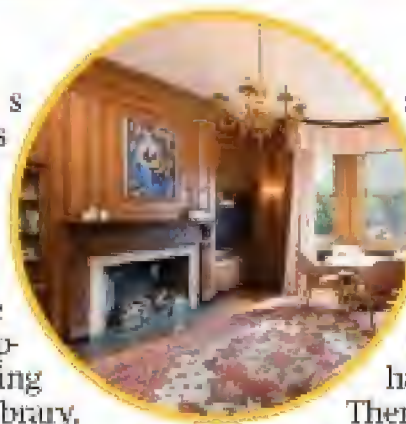
center, but that's only for those of us who can't afford this nearly \$19 million Commonwealth Avenue condo.

This truly extraordinary residence located on the first block of sunny Comm Ave (as it is known to the locals) combines the scale and luxuries of suburban living with the convenience and amenities of city living. Beaming

natural light through 32 windows, one can relish panoramic views of the distinguished Commonwealth Avenue Mall from the comforts of this spacious, 7,500-square-foot home.

A quintessential Back Bay home, the condo features a private entrance and 15-foot cathedral ceilings in its expansive 42-foot living room. The

room's center is a grand fireplace, showcasing the magnitude of this property. Heading into the library, the eye is drawn to stunningly detailed woodwork adding a unique elegance to the traditional



space. The impeccably maintained home also features five bedrooms, four full bathrooms and two half bathrooms.

There's more — for the price of \$18,995,000 you also get a separate dining room, five gas fireplaces scattered through-

out the home and plenty of oversized closets and storage space, two (yes, two) full laundry rooms and a private elevator to ferry you back and forth among all levels of the home.

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## We're obsessed with this new wallpaper

Spring is around the corner, meaning it's time to un-hyge: Shed the heavy curtains, woolly throws and plush pillows that are currently cozying up your homes and lighten things up.

Chasing Paper is here to help. The removable-wallpaper brand — which makes it easy for renters to ditch sterile white walls and personalize their space while still holding onto that security deposit —

partnered with dreamy-textile designer Rebecca Atwood for a limited-edition spring line that has us swooning.

The collection, which launched this week, consists of four brand-new prints (clouds, stripes, dots and fleur, a play on a leaf pattern) in Atwood's signature watercolor style and CP's affordable price (each 2-by-4-foot panel will sell for \$40).

"A lot of the prints,

like the fleur and the stripes, are very traditional in the wallpaper space, but done in a new, very modern way," says Chasing Paper founder Elizabeth Rees.

And listen up, moms: The sweet painterly prints work just as well for a nursery or kids' room as they do for your entryway.

"The clouds, especially, were made [with] kids in mind," says Rees.

TINA CHACHA



# Slumping C's set to face mighty Cavs

Boston is 0-2  
against Cleveland  
this season.

JAMES TOSCANO  
@Jimmy\_Toscano  
sports@metro.us

You wouldn't exactly say the Celtics are riding high headed into their big game Wednesday (8 p.m., CSNNE) at home against the Eastern Conference-leading Cavaliers.

After winning 11 of 12 games from Jan. 25 to Feb. 15, the Celtics dropped their last game before the All-Star break to the Bulls (albeit in controversial fashion). Despite a hot rumor mill, a trade wasn't made at the deadline, and they thanked their president of basketball operations Danny Ainge by dropping two of three out of the break, with key losses to the Raptors and Hawks. It's those two losses that should be concerning to Celtics fans hoping their team would make a big playoff run this season.

The Raptors did improve at the deadline. They traded for Serge Ibaka and P.J. Tucker to greatly upgrade their interior play. No, it's not all good news for the Raptors, as All-Star Kyle Lowry will undergo right wrist surgery, likely knocking him out until the playoffs. But if and when the tough point guard does



Isaiah Thomas and the Celtics are 0-2 against LeBron James and the Cavaliers this season. GETTY IMAGES

return, you can be sure the Raptors will be a team looking to wreak havoc. And even so, they beat the Celtics without him last Friday anyways.

The Hawks also added a nice rotation player in Ersan Ilyasova at the deadline. Yes, the Celtics took Al Horford from them over the offseason, but if Monday's game proved anything, it's that

the Hawks still know how to beat the Celtics. Unfortunately for the C's, that's the case for a lot of playoff contenders in the East.

The Celtics are 0-2 against the Cavaliers, needing a win tonight to give them a shot at a series split. They're 1-2 against the Wizards with a home game remaining, 1-3 against the Raptors,

and 1-1 against the Hawks with a road game remaining.

That's right, aside from the Hawks, the second-place Celtics cannot have a winning series record against the teams they're fighting for playoff positioning with — something that could come back to haunt them in the end.

Of course, a win

Wednesday would go a long way in building confidence back up again.

As it stands, the Celtics (38-22) are four games behind the Cavs (41-17) for first place in the Eastern Conference, with two extra games played. But it's hard to talk about teams that have upgraded and not mention the Cavaliers. Cleveland traded for

sharpshooter Kyle Korver back in January, and they just signed former All-Star Deron Williams to add even more depth.

And if that isn't enough, there are reports that Andrew Bogut could be next. Bogut was recently waived by the 76ers, becoming a free agent once he cleared waivers. The Cavs and Celtics are two of the teams linked to his services, and he could have his decision any second now.

## The case for Cleveland:

It's hard to bet against the LeBron James-led Cavs again this year, even with Kevin Love's injury. Assuming Love returns in time for the playoffs, the trio of James, Love, and Kyrie Irving along with their depth will be hard to beat.

## The case for Boston:

Many feel as though the Celtics are just one big man away from really making some serious noise in the playoffs. Their rebounding woes are well-documented. Bogut could find himself starting and/or playing big minutes for Boston, proving to the rest of the NBA that he has plenty left in the tank.

# Patriots will allow Hightower to hit the free agent market

The Patriots could easily still be stuck on three Super Bowl titles if it wasn't for linebacker Dont'a Hightower.

Hightower's fourth-quarter strip sack of Falcons QB Matt Ryan altered the course of Super Bowl LI last month and his tackle of then-Seahawks running back Marshawn Lynch at the 1-yard line with just over a minute remaining in Super Bowl XLIX helped save that game for New England two years ago.

But Bill Belichick does not pay for past performance, and Hightower is looking to make some big dollars this offsea-

son. The Patriots did not use their franchise tag on Hightower Tuesday, despite some speculation suggesting otherwise, and the 26-year-old will now test free agency.

"I think that [the Patriots] still will try to re-sign him and try to bring him back," ESPN's Adam Schefter said on the network's "NFL Live" program Tuesday. "A lot of teams view the franchise tag as a weapon, and the Patriots are not interested in doing that, I don't believe. They'd just like to bring back Dont'a Hightower and see if they can work out a deal, and if they can great for them

and the player, and if not — the player will move on to greener pastures, literally and figuratively."

Belichick consistently sang Hightower's praises before and after this year's Super Bowl.

"He's a great football player," Belichick told ESPN after the comeback over Atlanta. "He's smart, he's tough, he gives us good leadership and a lot of communication."

Belichick rarely goes all lovey dovey about players in his talks with the media, but his glowing remarks about Hightower have been nonstop for a while now. Belichick took a similar approach



Dont'a Hightower strips Matt Ryan of the ball in Super Bowl LI. GETTY IMAGES

with former cornerback Aqib Talib before he hit free agency, and it sure seemed like the Patriots wanted to keep the player

in earnest. The Broncos, however, broke the bank to sign Talib (six years, \$57 million in 2014).

It remains to be seen

if a team will seemingly overspend for Hightower's services.

NFL free agency begins on March 9. **MATTHEW BURR**



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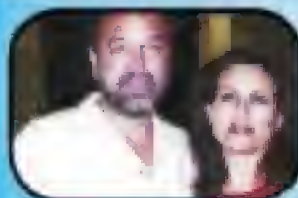
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Interested Candidates should send in Cover Letters and Resumes to

Mail Resumes:

North Suffolk Mental Health Association Attn: HR Recruiter

301 Broadway, Chelsea, MA 02150

Fax Resumes: 617-912-7971

Email Resumes: [gethired@northsuffolk.org](mailto:gethired@northsuffolk.org)

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Across

- 1 Coffee order
- 6 Adventurer, often
- 10 Arrange for
- 14 Bowie's last stand
- 15 Tel -
- 16 Wet down
- 17 Gold digger?
- 18 Roomy
- 19 Potpourri
- 20 Measure up (2 wds.)
- 22 Zest for life
- 23 Bewildered
- 24 Tennis stroke
- 26 Kind of rug
- 30 Called from the Tyrol
- 34 Pits
- 35 Come upon
- 36 Yea, to a matador
- 37 Click-on item
- 38 In the thick of
- 40 Rural necessity
- 41 Egg - yung
- 42 "Fish Magic" artist
- 43 What "I" is
- 44 It rustles
- 46 Barbecue spits
- 48 - alai
- 49 Dow uptick
- 50 Kill a bill
- 53 Extra inning, maybe
- 59 Culture dish goo
- 60 Cold War foe

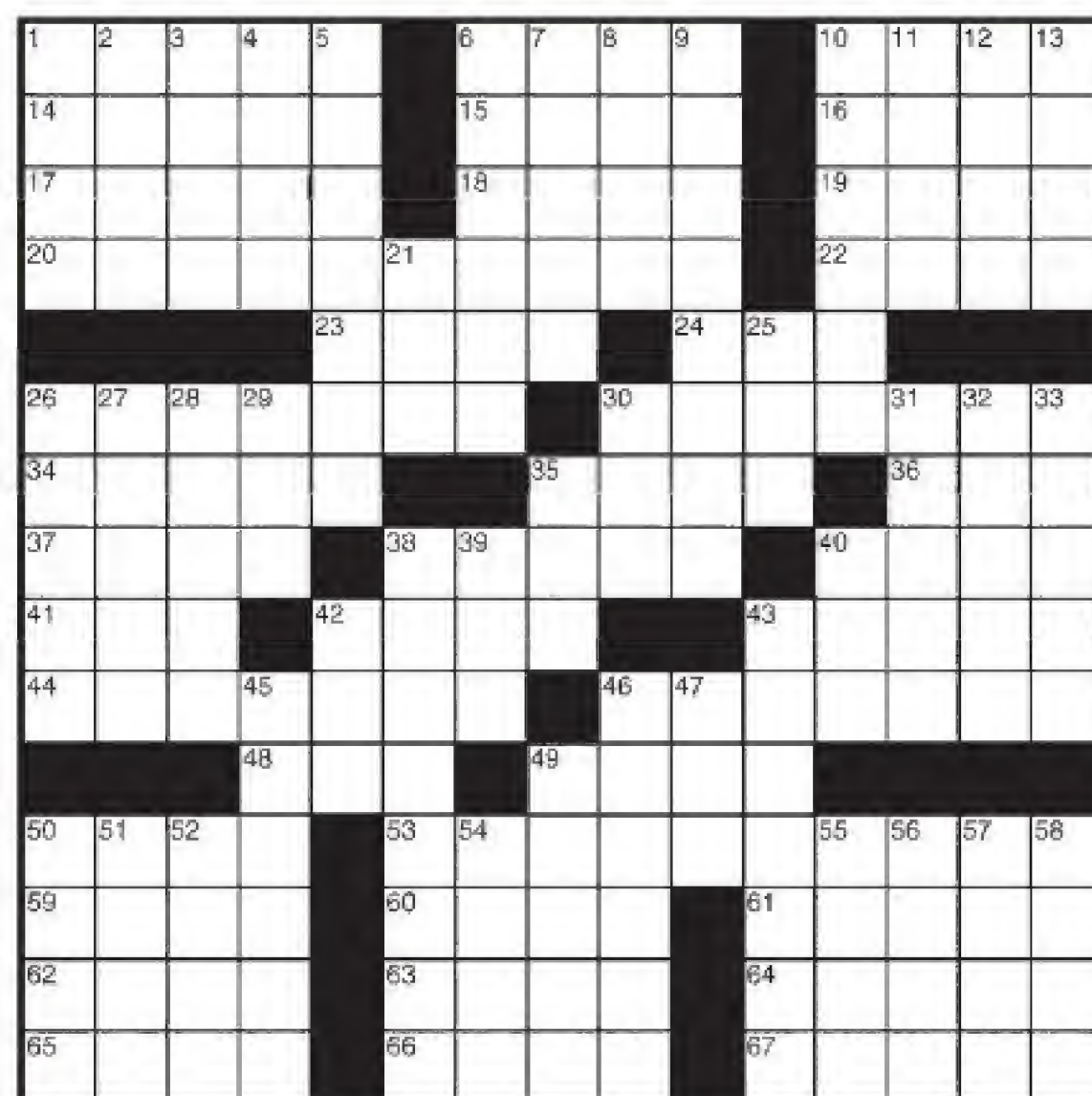
- 61 Clean the slate
- 62 Auction shout
- 63 See each other
- 64 Played in summer
- 65 Reproving clucks
- 66 Meadow browsers
- 67 "Cheers" in Baja

Down

- 1 Calm the fire
- 2 Essay byline
- 3 Pantry stock
- 4 Iowa city
- 5 Layouts
- 6 Anchor cable
- 7 Peron sobriquet

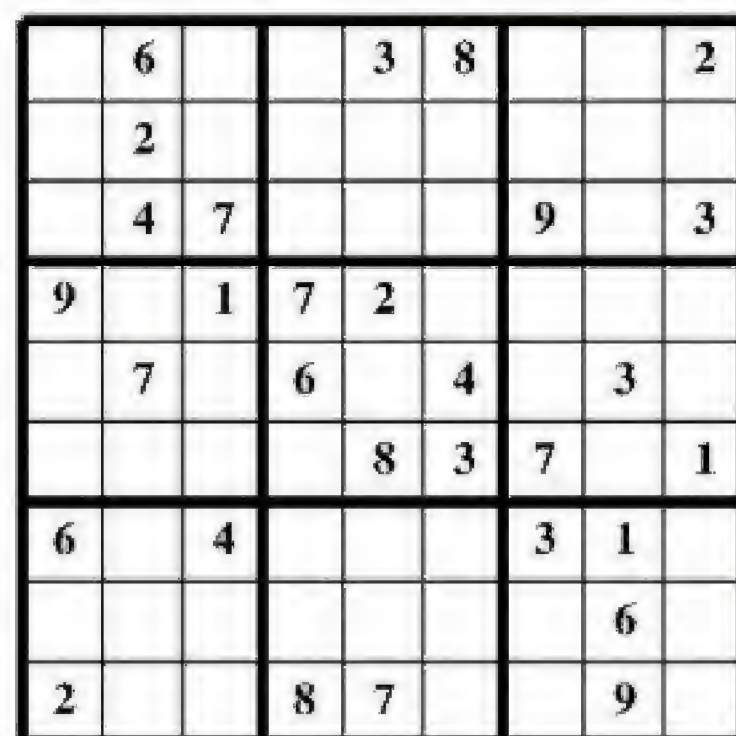
- 8 Saddle up
- 9 Drawn-out
- 10 Moon, in poetry
- 11 Take it easy
- 12 Great Wall locale
- 13 Diner sign
- 21 Employ
- 25 Unusual
- 26 PC key
- 27 Winter warmer
- 28 Remote
- 29 Knockout count
- 30 - and yang
- 31 "Gigi" composer
- 32 "Oklahoma!" aunt
- 33 Wooded valleys
- 35 Gauls, to Romans
- 38 Cockpit reading
- 39 Drop - - line
- 40 Outstanding success
- 42 Mauna -
- 43 Plywood layers
- 45 Narrow inlets
- 46 Buffalo pucksters
- 47 White wine aperitif
- 49 Chivalrous deed
- 50 Like the universe
- 51 They're easily bruised
- 52 Exchange ideas
- 54 " - - Her Standing There"
- 55 Fringe -
- 56 A Marx
- 57 Hairy twin
- 58 Tear to bits

metro.us/crossword

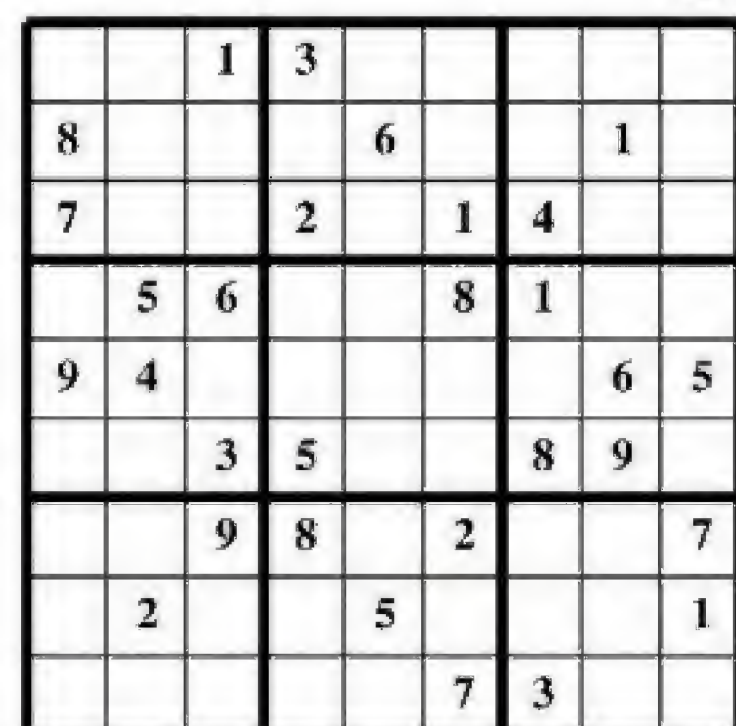


metro.us/sudoku

easy



hard



metro.us/horoscopes



**Aries** Emotionally charged issues will lead to trouble. Don't overreact if you want to avoid a battle. Concentrate on getting things done if you want to avoid complaints.



**Taurus** You will have difficulty figuring out whether to make a move or sit tight. Make sure that you have every detail in place before you proceed. Preparation is everything.



**Gemini** Don't feel that you must demonstrate your validity. If someone you are dealing with doesn't get what you are trying to do, proceed on your own.



**Cancer** Take a course that will help you live life your way. Step outside your comfort zone and you'll discover that unfamiliar territory isn't as scary as you anticipated.



**Leo** You should make self-improvement your goal. If you are proud of your accomplishments, others will recognize and honor what you achieve as well.



**Virgo** Someone will try to involve you in a dubious plan or pressure you into buying something you don't need. Be firm and you will avoid reckless behavior.



**Libra** Don't let minuscule problems spiral out of control. Address issues head-on, and do whatever needs to be done so that you can continue down your path of choice.



**Scorpio** Refuse to be a follower. Do your own thing and don't feel left out if no one joins you. The solitude will bring you peace of mind and insight into what's best for you.



**Sagittarius** Networking can bring about change if you are concise and only promise what you can deliver. Nurture relationships with those close to you.



**Capricorn** A trip or conference will cost more than anticipated. Don't jeopardize your financial position just to keep up with your peers, relatives or neighbors.



**Aquarius** Join forces with someone as talented and intelligent as you are. A physical change will add to your appeal. Romance is in the stars.



**Pisces** Don't feel compelled to share personal information. Only offer what will encourage others to help you reach your goals. Be honest regarding your plans. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers



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